



Responsible Financial Management

Nova Scotia will present a balanced budget for 2016–2017 with a net position of \$17.1 million, projecting surpluses for each year of the four-year fiscal plan.

Nova Scotia is not among the wealthiest provinces and can't depend on revenue royalties during boom times. We will continue to be more strategic, more prudent about how we spend the money we have.

Over the past two years, government has spent carefully, to better position the province for future prosperity. This has been difficult at times, but managing finances responsibly is the most important thing government can do to stabilize Nova Scotia's economy and provide room for economic growth into the future.

Budget 2016–2017 includes

- A balanced budget and a fiscal plan to keep Nova Scotia's finances balanced
- A commitment to negotiate with public sector workers to achieve collective agreements that are affordable to Nova Scotians and consistent with the fiscal plan
- Consolidation of financial advisory staff in individual departments to the Department of Finance and Treasury Board to better align financial functions with government priorities and to enhance financial reporting and accountability
- A redesign of the Department of Health and Wellness to put more focus on front-line care
- Consolidation of inspection and enforcement services and internal information technology services
- A commitment to review government programs and services on an ongoing basis, to ensure they are effective, efficient, and necessary
- A commitment to reduce red tape for business